

REPORT
OF THE
Executive Committee
OF THE
New York
Civil-Service Reform Association

READ AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, MAY 18, 1892

NEW YORK
PUBLISHED FOR THE
CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM ASSOCIATION
1892

Publications of the National Civil-Service Reform League

Proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the National Civil-Service Reform League, 1882, with address by George William Curtis. Per copy, 10 cts.

The same for '84, '85, '86, '87, '89, '90, '91 and '92. Per copy, 8 cts. Per 100, \$5 00

The Year's Work in Civil-Service Reform. (Address of 1884.) By George William Curtis.

Civil-Service Reform under the present National Administration. (Address of 1885.) By George William Curtis.

The Situation. (Address of 1886.) By George William Curtis.

"Party and Patronage." (Address of 1892.) By George William Curtis.

Address to the Voters of the United States. By George William Curtis.

The Selection of Laborers. By James M. Bugbee of the Mass. C. S. Commission.

The same in German.

Report of the Special Committee on the present Condition of the Reform Movement, March 16, 1887.

Civil Service Reform as a Moral Question. By Chas. J. Bonaparte. Per 100, 60 cts.

Constitution of the National Civil-Service Reform League.

Also a few copies of some early publications.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE NEW YORK CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM ASSOCIATION.

- II. **The Beginning of the Spoils System in the National Government, 1829-30.** (Reprinted, by permission, from Parton's "Life of Andrew Jackson.") Per copy, 5 cts. Per 100, \$3 00
- III. **The Spoils System and Civil-Service Reform in the Custom-House and Post-Office at New York.** By Dorman B. Eaton. 136 pages, 8vo. Per copy, 15 cts. Per 100, \$10 00
- IV. **Civil-Service Reform in the New York Custom-House.** By Willard Brown. Per copy, 5 cts. Per 100, \$3 00
- V. **Term and Tenure of Office.** By Dorman B. Eaton. Per copy, 25 cts. Second edition, abridged. Per copy, 15 cts. Per 100, \$10 00
- VII. **The Danger of an Office-Holding Aristocracy.** By E. L. Godkin. Per copy, 5 cts. Per 100, \$3 00
- Daniel Webster and the Spoils System.** An extract from Senator Bayard's oration at Dartmouth College, June, 1882. Per copy, 3 cts. Per 100, \$1 50

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REPORT
OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE
NEW YORK CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM
ASSOCIATION.

READ AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, MAY 18, 1892.

AT the Annual meeting of the Association held on the 20th of May, 1891, the following officers were elected:

President.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.

Vice-Presidents.

JOHN JAY,
CARL SCHURZ,
FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
ORLANDO B. POTTER,

WILLIAM E. DODGE,
D. WILLIS JAMES,
OSWALD OTTENDORFER,
HORACE E. DEMING.

Executive Committee.

R. R. BOWKER,	GEO. HAVEN PUTNAM,
SILAS W. BURT,	THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
EDWARD CARY,	ANSON PHELPS STOKES,
CHARLES COLLINS,	DORMAN B. EATON,
A. R. MACDONOUGH,	WM. H. THOMSON,
ALEX. MACKAY-SMITH,	HORACE WHITE,
JACOB F. MILLER,	EVERETT P. WHEELER.
F. W. WHITRIDGE.	

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, held immediately after the adjournment of the Annual Meeting, Mr. Wheeler was unanimously re-elected Chairman, and Mr. Potts, Secretary and Treasurer.

The several standing Committees were reconstituted as follows:

Publication Committee.

CHARLES COLLINS, Chairman,	GEO. WILLIAM CURTIS,
E. L. GODKIN,	GEORGE R. BISHOP,
WILLIAM POTTS.	

Committee on Legislation.

HORACE E. DEMING, Chairman,	CARL SCHURZ,
FRED. W. WHITRIDGE,	EVERETT P. WHEELER,
ELIAL F. HALL.	

Auditing Committee.

HORACE WHITE, Chairman,	CHARLES COLLINS.
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Committee on Finance.

ANSON PHELPS STOKES, Chairman,	EDWARD B. MERRILL,
ORLANDO B. POTTER,	J. HAMPDEN ROBB,
SAMUEL P. AVERY.	

Committee on Affiliated Societies.

HAMILTON B. TOMPKINS, Chairman,	JACOB F. MILLER,
DORMAN B. EATON,	WILLIAM POTTS,
HENRY T. TERRY.	

Committee on Civil-Service Examinations.

CHAS. W. WATSON, Chairman,

A. R. MACDONOUGH,

WILLIAM L. TRENHOLM.

ALFRED BISHOP MASON,

SETH S. TERRY.

At the Committee meeting in January the resignation of Mr. Russell Sturgis as a member of the Executive Committee was accepted and Mr. Dorman B. Eaton was elected to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Cary was added to the Committee on Civil Service Examinations during the investigation of the workings of the State and Municipal commissions.

Mr. Eaton was added to the Committee on Legislation pending the consideration by the Committee of certain bills affecting the reform introduced in Congress.

There are before the Fifty-Second Congress, still in session, several measures important to the advancement of the reform which have had the support of the association and have made substantial progress.

Mr. Lodge's bill for the inclusion of the great body of fourth-class postmasters in the classified service has been reintroduced and given very earnest support.

Mr. Hoar's bill for the application of Civil Service rules to first, second, and third-class postmasters is still pending. It is sweeping in its scope and is aimed at one of the strongest entrenchments of the "spoils" organization. When passed, in its present form, or in a form which practically embodies the essential features of the bill, it will go far toward establishing the postal department upon a business basis.

The bill to make permanent the reform instituted by Secretary Tracy in the navy yards is receiving most favorable consideration, and Mr. Andrews bill for the extension of the system to all laborers of the government has been widely discussed and made to serve as a forcible means of popular education.

The Association's Committee on Legislation, assisted to a very considerable degree by Mr. Dorman B. Eaton, has been most active in the history of these bills, working toward their introduction and fostering their further progress.

The reform in the Federal service has been greatly aided by the faithful services of the Commission and the personal devotion to duty of Hon. Theodore Roosevelt. All that has been possible to the Commission, under the limitations existing seems to have been done.

The system has been extended to include the several hundred employees of the Indian service and several hundred others in the departmental corps at Washington.

The former instance, due very largely to the earnest efforts of our co-worker, Mr. Herbert Welsh, has already, in its resultant efficiency and honest dealing, tended to assure continued peace at the reservations.

Secretary Tracy, continuing the navy yard reforms, has finally included practically all of the mechanical labor of his department within the rules. Letters from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, recently made public, testify to the complete success of the system, and quote expressions of commanders of vessels in high praise of the practical results that have come within their experience.

The credit of inducing the first trial of the system at the Brooklyn Navy Yard is due President William G. Low and his active fellow members of the Brooklyn Civil Service Reform Association. The petition circulated by the association in Brooklyn about the time of our last annual meeting and addressed to Mr. Tracy, was followed by cordial conferences between the Secretary and the committee of the association and later, and in natural sequence, by the orders through which the new system has been established.

From the Brooklyn Association has also come a proposition to include the Internal Revenue Service within the rules, and

the obtaining of the reform in the official organization of the District of Columbia has been effectively advocated in other quarters.

In New York State the Commission of last year is continued. Strong efforts are being made to extend its jurisdiction in the State service. The Prison Association of New York has taken the lead in an effort to secure a re-application of civil-service rules to the state prisons, through constitutional amendment, and is receiving the support and co-operation of this and other state associations. Mr. Dorman B. Eaton, acting as chairman of the joint meeting of the associations, held two weeks ago, has appointed a joint committee to draft an amendment to provide for this extension and the further inclusion of the State Department of Public Works. Mr. Everett P. Wheeler drafted the enabling resolution.

The work of the municipal Commission has been the subject of investigation by a Special Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Watson. Proposed amendments to remedy the existing defects discovered in the local system are under consideration.

The new street-cleaning act, the movement for which was inspired by Mrs. F. P. Kinnicutt, and greatly promoted by her vigorous action, and the passage of which was secured through the joint efforts of Mayor Grant's Committee, with Mr. Jesup, as chairman, and our association, will go into effect within a few days. If we are correctly informed as to its details, its provisions for appointment may be made to serve the purpose of the reform very fairly if properly enforced. The clerical employees are to be appointed under civil service rules; the uniformed force, through a system of registration and medical examination, in the language of the applying section, "without any preference."

The Municipal Commissioners of last year, Messrs. Thomson, Field, and Hildreth, are continued, with Mr. Lee Phillips Chief Examiner.

Their report for the year shows the number of persons en-

tered for examination, 2110; number passed, 1661; number of appointments, 912; removals, 161, and promotions, 202. This brings the total of employees in the city's classified service to 7098 and leaves 3028 still without the rules.

During the year the matter of political assessments upon office-holders has been made the subject of organized investigation. The correspondence between the officers of the association and the Postmaster and Collector of New York and their superior officers relative to alleged infractions of the law in which they have failed to interfere, has been published. It cannot be said that the effects have been more substantial than the wide advertisement of the dereliction of which these officers have been guilty.

In Federal affairs the activity of the several associations and their members has been well illustrated by the recent correspondence between Mr. Foulke and the President and by the Baltimore inquiry.

Mr. Roosevelt, in a recent address, expressed his intention of making the prevention of assessment his especial work during the Fall campaign, and of vigorously prosecuting every offence unearthed. The associations represented in their investigating committees, will give him every aid.

The matter of a careful dissemination of Civil Service Reform literature has been taken up and will be pushed in a systematic way with special reference to the missionary work of the association in the coming campaign.

The latest publication, the admirable address of President Curtis, at Baltimore, on "Party and Patronage," will be sent broadcast through the country. Ten thousand copies have been prepared.

We have continued to circulate a large number of copies of the *Civil Service Record* among paying members, and among reading rooms and libraries, and have aided in extending the field of the *Civil Service Reformer* and the *Civil Service Chronicle*. After the issue of the June number the *Record* and the *Reformer* will

be discontinued and their energies united in a new journal to be devoted to the cause to be published at Washington. To provide against the possible contingency of an annual deficit, a sufficient guarantee fund has been subscribed by the several associations, including our own.

A new impetus will be given the work of the association by united effort during the coming year.

Our office, located at 56 Wall street, under a new agreement with the Bankers Loan and Investment Company, is being re-organized and preparations made for an advance all along the line. On the resignation of Mr. Kendrick in June, Col. Burt was elected assisstant secretary. At the October meeting, the necessity, strongly urged by the Secretary, of re-creating this office, making it an active one and engaging the services of an assistant who might devote his entire time to the work, was discussed. A committee was appointed to act conjointly with a similar committee of the Brooklyn Association, in securing such an officer, with the design of sharing the expense, and a report of their success is about to be made.

A Committe on Membership was appointed at the April meeting and is now preparing plans for adding materially to our rolls and to our support.

In every way we are preparing for greater activity in the important reform work which has been intrusted to us.

Respectfully submitted,

EVERETT P. WHEELER,
Chairman.

WILLIAM POTTS,
Secretary.

NEW YORK, May 18, 1892.

ANNUAL REPORT OF WILLIAM POTTS, Treasurer,

In Account with THE CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM ASSOCIATION.

To Balance from old account April 30, 1891.....	\$389.14
“ Cash for dues, April 30, 1892.....	\$1,655.00
“ Subscriptions.....	415.00
“ Rent, N. C. S. R. League.....	200.00
“ Documents sold.....	1.60
“ Interest.....	39.23
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	\$2,310.83
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	\$2,699.97
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To Balance brought forward.....	\$869.84

By Cash, salary of Secretary, April 30, 1892.....	\$600.00
“ Bankers Loan and Investment Co., for Office Rent and Clerk hire.....	\$1,000.00
“ Rent of Meeting Room.....	90.00
“ Advertising.....	10.00
“ Postage.....	10.00
“ Stationery, Printing Bills and Stamped Envelopes.....	96.53
“ Petty Expenses.....	23.60
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	\$1,830.13
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Balance carried forward.....	869.84
	<hr/>
	\$2,699.97

E. & O. E. WILLIAM POTTS,
NEW YORK, April 30, 1892. Secretary.

President.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.

Vice-Presidents.

JOHN JAY,
CARL SCHURZ,
FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
ORLANDO B. POTTER,

WILLIAM E. DODGE,
D. WILLIS JAMES,
OSWALD OTTENDORFER,
DORMAN B. EATON,

Secretary and Treasurer.

WILLIAM POTTS.

Assistant Secretary,

GEORGE MCANENY, JR.

Executive Committee.

EVERETT P. WHEELER. *Chairman.*

SILAS W. BURT,
EDWARD CARY,
CHARLES COLLINS,
HORACE E. DEMING,
A. R. MACDONOUGH,
ALEX. MACKAY-SMITH,
JACOB F. MILLER,

GEO. HAVEN PUTNAM,
THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
ANSON PHELPS STOKES,
HUGH S. THOMPSON,
WM. H. THOMSON,
HORACE WHITE,
F. W. WHITRIDGE.

Publication Committee.

CHARLES COLLINS, *Chairman,*
E. L. GODKIN,

GEO. WILLIAM CURTIS,
GEORGE R. BISHOP,

WILLIAM POTTS.

Committee on Legislation.

HORACE E. DEMING, *Chairman,*
FRED. W. WHITRIDGE,

CARL SCHURZ,
JACOB F. MILLER,

EVERETT P. WHEELER.

Auditing Committee.

HORACE WHITE, *Chairman,*

CHARLES COLLINS.

Committee on Finance.

ANSON PHELPS STOKES, *Chairman,*
ORLANDO B. POTTER,

R. FULTON CUTTING,
GEORGE MCANENY, JR.

SAMUEL P. AVERY.

Committee on Affiliated Societies.

DORMAN B. EATON, *Chairman,*
WILLIAM POTTS,

S. H. ORDWAY,
R. S. MINTURN,

HENRY T. TERRY.

Committee on Civil-Service Examinations.

C. W. WATSON, *Chairman,*
ALFRED BISHOP MASON,

A. R. MACDONOUGH,
SETH S. TERRY,

CHARLES B. STOVER.

Publications of the New York Civil-Service Reform Ass'n.

The "Pendleton Bill." Bill to Regulate and Improve the Civil Service of the United States, as approved.

What has been done in New York and may be done elsewhere.

The Reform of the Civil Service.

What is the Civil Service?

A Primer of Civil-Service Reform. Per 100, . . . \$1 00

The same in German. Per 100, . . . \$1 00

Annual Report of the C. S. R. A. of N. Y., May, 1883.

The same for '85, '86, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91 and '92.

Hon. Augustus Schoonmaker upon the Merit System.

The Workingmen's Interest in Civil Service Reform. Address by
Hon. Henry A. Richmond.

Civil Service Reform, An address by Hon. Henry A. Richmond.

Constitution and By-Laws of New York Association.

Also a few copies of some early publications.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Civil Service in Great Britain. By Dorman B. Eaton. Per copy, 25 cts.

The Competitive Test. By Edward M. Shepard. Per copy, - 5 cts.

The Meaning of Civil-Service Reform. By Edward O. Graves,
Per copy, - - - - - 3 cts.

Civil-Service Examinations. Being question papers with actual answers of successful and unsuccessful candidates. By R. R. Bowker.
Per copy, - - - - - 12 cts.

Decisions and Opinions in Construction of the Civil Service Laws.

Massachusetts Civil-Service Reform Act.

Report of the U. S. Civil-Service Commission, 1884 and later.

Report of the N. Y. Civil Service Commission, 1884.

The same for '85 and following years.

Also a few other miscellaneous publications.

Orders for the publications will be filled by WILLIAM POTTS, Secretary, 56 Wall St., New York, or by G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, 27 and 29 West 23d St., New York.